

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF CARROLL)SS.
CITY OF LANARK)

August 5, 2008

Lanark City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Alderman Ken Weaver, Alderman John Huggins, Alderman Mark Macomber and Alderman Jeri Beverley were present. Mayor Kevin Barnes, Alderman Lawrence Derrer and Alderman Ron Strohecker were absent.

Also present were Les Guenzler, Chief Page, Marty Beranek, Mark Meador and Mark Reeser.

In Mayor Barnes' absence, the Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After doing roll call, the Clerk asked for an appointment for mayor pro-tem. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Beverley to appoint Alderman Macomber as mayor pro-tem. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Beverley to accept the minutes of the July 15th meeting as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept and pay the bills from July 15th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Marty Beranek of MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file). Phase 2 – Beranek reported MSA is working on the closure paperwork. MSA received a draft of agreement with Don Hart. Beranek announced the City received an invoice from IDOT and explained there may be other outstanding fees. There will be some additional work on MSA's part to complete this closure that is not in the Brownfield Grant budget. MSA has spoken to Mike Charles of IEPA and Charles feels that these costs can be reimbursed. MSA will request on City's behalf to have these additional fees reimbursed. Beranek explained this will not drag out the completion of this project. Southside Utilities – water main construction by Skoog Landscape & Design is complete. Testing is also complete. Guenzler is applying for the operating permit through IEPA. Once permit is obtained, Guenzler will connect Eastland Motor Sports to the new water main and their temporary service will be abandoned. Skoog has submitted payment application #1 in the amount of \$70,750.30. MSA has reviewed this application and recommends it for Council's approval. Beranek reported site restoration of Eastland School District property will be completed as soon as practicable. IDOT right-of-way and Eastland Motor Sports properties will follow but will likely push back into late August and September. Council members want the site restoration at the school to be completed before school starts on the 18th. Beranek announced the topographic fieldwork for the sanitary sewer service to Eastland Motor Sports has been completed. Base drafting for the design is underway. Several easements will be required. A map of the proposed sewer route is attached to update to help clarify easement acquisitions. Beranek questioned if there already existed an easement with Brother's Restaurant. Mitchell will check. Beranek reported we will need to put in casing when boring under highway. This will add to the cost. Beranek announced we might be able to get started on construction yet this year. Beranek and Mitchell will work on easements rather than waiting until next meeting. Beranek submitted paperwork for pay application and change order for Mayor Pro-tem Macomber's signatures. Change order is an increase of \$150 which brings total to \$83,547.69. Balance of \$12,797.39 remains. Alderman Beverley is concerned with getting restoration done before school begins. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to accept payment application #1 for \$70,750.30. Roll call: Alderman Beverley-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye and Alderman Macomber-aye. Motion carried.

Sidewalk bids were opened by Mayor Pro-tem Macomber.

M & M Concrete	\$42,000.00
Burkholder & Son, Inc.	\$24,800.00
Reeser Construction	\$20,000.00
Hometown Quality Construction, Inc.	\$16,128.18
Harn Construction Co.	\$28,400.00 (\$7.10/sq. ft. for 4,000 sq. ft.)

Mark Reeser and Mark Meador of Reeser Construction were present for bid opening. After bid opening, Reeser announced he can do for less because he is self-employed – no prevailing wages. Reeser reported Meador works for him. Chief Page volunteered to do references. After some discussion, Alderman Beverley announced she does not want to delay this decision, but feels she cannot vote. Bids were tabled.

Reaffirm seal coating – **Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Beverley to reaffirm seal coating. All ayes. Motion carried.

One building permit and one variance were presented.

1. permit – George Woosnam for three seasons room.
2. variance – Stacy Bauer for awning to protect her front door. (Bauer had come in after the meeting started.)

The Clerk announced the Zoning Board recommended approval of the variance. The Clerk announced the variance was applied for after the work was completed. Bauer announced she did not know she needed a variance or permit. Bauer claims the variance cost more than the materials as there was no cost to the materials. During the discussion of the variance, Alderman Beverley reported the reason we have a Zoning Board is to review requests and give their recommendation. We should support their decision. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Huggins to approve variance and permit. Roll call: Alderman Beverley-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Alderman Macomber-aye. Motion carried. The Clerk announced a contractor was in inquiring about a building permit to construct two garages this year and a house next year on the recently annexed property on Cyclone Ridge Road. The Clerk reminded everyone of the issue on the north side of town when a permit was issued to put up an accessory structure without an existing principal building present. She referred to the 10-10-1j in the City Code Book. Council members recalled the problem on the north side. All seemed to agree to have contractor apply for one building permit to do all the work and then make decision. Discussion went to possibly issuing fines due to no permits. Many times, people are requesting permits for work already started or completed. Alderman Beverley suggested sending out notices in the next water bills. Alderman Huggins wants to put out newsletter with “hot” issues. Many times residents use the excuse, “I didn’t know I needed a permit.” Alderman Macomber feels ignorance is not an excuse. Chief Page suggested putting an ad in the newspaper. Alderman Huggins suggested putting our ordinances on-line. The Clerk went back to the contractor’s inquiry. The contractor also inquired who he needed to contact for the driveway since it was annexed into City. Alderman Huggins announced the township.

Consider Zoning Change – Alderman Huggins reported working on changes to building permits. He suggested including in water bills and start fining violators. Alderman Huggins feels building permits should be based on fair market value not \$1,000 or under. Alderman Beverley questioned including labor if you do yourself. Alderman Weaver feels we are trying to maintain the integrity of the community. One alderman felt the ordinance is there when we need teeth in it and another feels it’s more about setbacks. One suggestion was to require a permit for everything. Others disagreed. Another suggestion was to have the Zoning Officer available to approve permits unmediated.

Committees

Water & Sewer – no report.

Economic Development – no report.

Personnel – Alderman Weaver announced he and Guenzler will get together soon. Weaver requested executive session for real estate.

Police – no report. Chief Page gave Alderman Beverley a booklet about emergency preparedness and what to do when disaster threatens due to last night's storm. Chief would like to order one for everyone in town. When asked how these would be delivered, Chief explained door to door and if not home leave in mailbox (will get authorization). Chief also recommended back up lights for the Police Dept., library, city hall and Heritage Center. When electricity is out, these buildings become useless. Alderman Beverley questioned a back up generator. Guenzler announced we have one. Chief also suggested hard line phones. The Clerk announced she has one.

Purchasing and Finance – no report. Guenzler reported the leaf vac is here.

Street and Property – no report. Alderman Macomber announced everyone has copy of minutes from last week's committee meeting. At the meeting, it was discussed that Deacon Brown broke city sidewalk during construction. Damage has not been repaired by property owner. Alderman Macomber reported when his sidewalk was damaged during construction at his residence, he paid the city for replacement of the sidewalk. If Brown does not have to replace, then Macomber wants to be reimbursed. Alderman Beverley suggested sending Brown a letter giving time to repair. The Clerk was asked to send letter. (Ed Mitchell came in at 8:30 PM.) Letter is to give him thirty days to repair or the city will replace and send them a bill. In order to be sure work is done correctly, Alderman Beverley suggested including a copy of the recent sidewalk bid specs. Alderman Macomber referred to the minutes again regarding the roof on the Hart building only this year. When asked what that means "roof only this year", Alderman Huggins explained to only do the roof this year, nothing else to be done to the building this year.

Planning – Alderman Beverley announced nothing new at this time.

Ordinance – Alderman Huggins discussed complaints on recent beef and meat solicitors at the committee meeting and agreed solicitor's permits should be made stronger. Committee suggests moving all responsibility to the Police Department. The Clerk will no longer have any responsibilities for this. Charities will have an exemption section. The Clerk inquired if they were going to designate which days of the week someone could solicit as she has had a couple of permit requests for Saturdays and Sundays. Alderman Huggins announced Monday through Friday only. Alderman Huggins discussed a recent experience with a dog on an electronic collar at the school. Dog owner was bragging about it being part wolf. He is working on changing the wording on leash.

Ordinance amending the Lanark City Code with regard to no parking signs – Mitchell submitted draft for review.

Ed Mitchell reported Cook was to be here tonight, but Mitchell was at hospital with mother. Cook will come to the next meeting. Mitchell asked everyone to bring the recent mailing from Valente into his office.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Alderman Beverley announced the City Mt. Dept. did a good job last night with the storm. They got the back hoe out right away and started clearing streets of trees. It will take several days to get cleaned up. Guenzler announced the generator was used last night for four hours. There are still parts of town without power. Alderman Macomber, Alderman Huggins and the Clerk were still without power.

Chief Page submitted written report.

Alderman Weaver requested executive session.

Alderman Huggins announced he wants to put together a newsletter to go out in the water bills. Wants to let residents know assistance is available and where. Alderman Huggins will have rough draft for next meeting.

Alderman Macomber and Alderman Beverley did not have any additional business.

The Clerk asked for approval to sign checks in mayor's absence. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to authorize the Clerk to sign checks in mayor's absence. All ayes. Motion carried. The Eastland Athletic Boosters sent a letter asking for donations. All seemed to agree not to make a donation. The Clerk received complaint regarding a port-a-potty in resident's yard. After the Clerk read from Code Book 6-3-1c, all seemed to agree use of a port-a-potty was not allowed in city limits. Chief Page will check into this.

Council compensation – Council discussed since it is hard to get anyone to serve as alderman, a salary increase may help. Due to the many absences of a current alderman, all seemed to agree there needs to be an attendance requirement. One suggestion was to have a base salary and so much per meeting. Then there was concern there would be more committee meetings being scheduled to increase pay. Mitchell feels Statute is very vague. Alderman Beverley is in favor of raising the alderman's salary. The current rate is \$2,000 per year for aldermen and \$5,000 per year for mayor. Alderman Beverley suggested a requirement of attendance to maintain position – if not an active participant, not doing service to citizens. One alderman felt 60% attendance should be required. Another thought 50% which would be one meeting per month. Compensation needs to be in ordinance and must be passed six months before next election which is April 2008. All seemed to agree with \$3,000 per year for aldermen and if don't attend 50% only get 50% of salary – regular scheduled meetings or special council meetings. All seemed to agree the mayor, clerk and treasurer's salaries were okay. Alderman Huggins inquired if we wanted to change office hours for city hall. Alderman Huggins feels if someone comes in on Thursday and office is closed, must wait until Monday when open again. When asked about the current hours, the Clerk reported the office is rarely closed on Thursdays (Thanksgiving or vacation). When she is in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the door is open to public and also answers calls that come in during that time. The current hours are Monday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and rarely closes for lunch.

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Beverley to enter executive session to discuss real estate and acquisition. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 9:42 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Beverley to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried. Exited executive session at 9:55 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to set Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests copies at forty cents per page. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Beverley to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:56 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*